Approved For Release 2004/11/01: CIA-RDP88-01350R000200400050-5 Marchett, Victor Social 2011

## Ex-Hazletom CIA Officer Of Spy Novel The Rope

By DEFFY MARKOR

A Harleign native who served for 14 years as an officer in the V.S. Central Intelligence Agency has turned his life in the espionage profession into a suspenseful novel. in "The Rope Dancer," Victor Marchetti tells what it's really like to be an agent for a super-secret organization.

The hook by the di-year-old Mar-Chetti, now a resident of Oakton, Vn., officially will be published by Gresset and Dunlop, Inc. of

New York Thursday.

The novelist, who formerly lived ht 197 N. Wyoming St., is the son of Victor Marchetti, also residing In Oakton, and of the Inte Martha Murchetti. He is married to the former Bernleo Baran, Beaver Mondons.

Was ES Carrier

Marchetti; once a carrier for the Standard-Speaker, joined the CIA in 1955 and attained the rank equivalent of a full colonel. He epent the bilk of his career working on the Soviet problem largely thents, maying up the organiza-Clonal ladder Unwigh assignments in research, operations, current intelligence and national estimates.

He finally entered CIA management where he was executive asnistant to the Deputy Director and executive executive Director and assistant to the Chief of Planning, Programming and Budgeting.

Sees CIA Out-of-Step .

After a few years of working and watching at the executive level, Marchelli came to the concinsion that U.S. Intelligence is too affluent, too bureaucratic, amazingly inefficient and ineffective, unbelievably lacking in control and directon and generally to writing fiction.



Victor Marchelli

"The Rope Dancer" is his initial effort. Another fille for the factual thriller by the ex-CIA officer could be "Top Secret: The Nice Guy Next Door is a Soviet Agent."

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While honors and other rewards are secretly heaped upon him in the Kremlin, Paul is threatened by betrayal from within the Com- In an early review, John Barburn munist forces and by the vicious of the Saturday Review Syndhole pincer movement of U.S. counter-wrote that "The Rope Datest" is espionage, masterminded by the so realistic and so well plotted that wile Wellington. As the pressures one can only hope it is not trace build against him, Paul finds himsell walled in bura suspicious acand by cut-in-out murder.

story of how the agency works, us- elsewhere regarding foreign, paing the novel as his medium. "The perback and movie rights for "The Rope Dancer," however, is not an Rope Dancer." ordinary espionage story. In many respects, it is the most realistic

. No James Bond Act The hero is no dashing and fan-instic James Bond doing silly and

Tracks Double Life authored by a former professional, In "The Rope Dancer," Mar-who also happens to be a native

Marchetti admits the characters out of step with the times and snows now a top meangened of Marchetti admits the characters needs of the nation. Because of his ficer can smuggle U.S. secrets under the control der the very noses of the highest are drawn from the in the explonation and his critical attitude to ranking American intelligence of age profession. It reflects, the transition of the highest what one sees and leaving from the OIA in 1959 and turned forter to the Communities his life.

"The crushing burden of clandeslinity, the political maneuverings and hypocrisy, the bureaucratic drudgery - these are portrayed as honestly and realistically as is possible in a work of fiction. After years in the trade and after having read hundreds of imitation spy stories. I wanted to tell it like it High School. They live outside the

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HUS Grad

The author, who expects to visit spy novel to be produced since Hazleton early this fall, attended John Le Carre's "The Spy Who Holy Trinky Parochial School, Came in from the Cold." unted from Hazleton High School, where he played football and was active in dramatics.

His father, uncle and grandfather operated Marchetil's Plumbing and Heating, North Wroming

After altending the Hazleton Campus of the Pennsylvania State University for two years, Mar-chefti went to live in New York's Greenwich Village for a year and took classes at NYU. He then moved on to Paris, where he enrolled at the Sorbonne.

The former local man loined the U.S. Army in Germany in 1953; and was asigned to intelligence duties on the East German border. Two years later he was discharged there. Marcheiti went back to Purls, then to New York and Jinally returned here to marry Bernice Baran, who is the daughter of Mrs. Anna Baran, Beaver Meadows, and of the late Wassil Baran,

After eight years of wandering and wondering, Marchelli relates, be enrolled again at Penn State and attained a college diploma. His work with the Central Intelligence Agency followed. .

Mr. and Mrs. Marchettle are the parents of three sons, the eldest of who plays football at Oakton really is."

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## Ex-Hazleton CIA Officer Author

## Of Spy Novel 'The Rope Dancer'

for 14 years as an officer in the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency has turned his life in the espionage profession into a suspenseful novel. In "The Rope Dancer," Victor Marchetti tells what it's really like organization.

The book by the 41-year-old Marchetti, now a resident of Oakton, Va., officially will be published by Grosset and Dunlap, Inc. of

New York Thursday.

The novelist, who formerly lived at 137 N. Wyoming St., is the son of Victor Marchetti, also residing in Oakton, and of the late Martha Marchetti. He is married to the former Bernice Baran, Beaver Meadows.

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Marchetti, once a carrier for the Standard Speaker, joined the CIA in 1955 and attained the rank equivalent of a full colonel. He spent the balk of his career working on the Soviet problem largely as an analyst of military developments, moving up the organizational ladder through assignments in research, operations, current intelligence and national estimates.

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Sees CIA Out-of-Step

After a few years of working and watching at the executive level, Marchetti came to the conclusion that U.S. Intelligence is: too affluent, too bureaucratic, amazingly inefficient and ineffective, unbelievably lacking in control and directon and generally out of step with the times and needs of the nation, Because of his. eventual disillusionment with its policies and his critical attitude to ward its bureaucracy, he resigned from the CIA in 1969 and turned for writing fiction.

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Washington, Paul Franklin, the main character in the novel, is a to be an agent for a super-secret good fellow—devoted to his two organization.

[good fellow—devoted to his two organization.] to his attractive wife Nancy. To espionage operatives on two continents, he is one of history's top spies, trading vital U.S. secrets for unprecedented sums and switching his allegiance as fast as jets can take him to East Berlin and Mos-

Tracks Double Life

In "The Rope Dancer," Marchetti tracks Paul's double life and shows how a top intelligence officer can smuggle U.S. secrets under the very noses of the highestranking American intelligence officials.

From the moment that Paul debecomes a dance with danger, timity, the political maneuverings and was asigned to intelligence leading to clandestine meetings with the intriquing Vera; his Soviet case officer, Yuri; and even with the head of the infamous Soviet KGB.

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Although Marchetti did not seek to write an expose of the CIA, he has told a realistic and revealing story of how the agency works, using the novel as his medium. "The Rope Dancer," however, is not an

By BETTY HARLOR

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A Hazleton native who served of fort. Another title for the factual of the ing as espionage novels. Paul The author, who expects to visit Franklin is typical of the kind of Holy Trinby Perochial School, intelligence business, and this is North Laurei Street, and was grad what sets the powel apart from the United from Heriotee Trinb Carlot. what sets the novel apart from the nated from Hazleton Nigh School,

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In an early review, John Barcum of the Saturday Review Syndicate wrote that "The Rope Dancer" is so realistic and so well plotted that one can only hope it is not true.

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Mr. and Mrs. Marchetti are the parents of three sons, the eldest of who plays football at Oakion High School. They live outside the village of Oakton, near Vienne, Va., a suburb of the nation's capital.